

ABSTRACT

A buffer size for a router configured to receive packets transmitted through a communications network is temporarily increased at a time instant corresponding to an onset of congestion of the router for a time period that may be approximately equal to a round-trip packet time in the network. The increase in buffer size may be accomplished by providing an auxiliary storage area for packets that would otherwise be stored in a queue at the router, for example an auxiliary storage area associated with a physical storage device external to the router.